

this place (except ^{during} the trajet from Savannah to Montgomery) I have always enjoyed either a seabreeze or the breeze of steamer speed, which in the bow of a good boat, is very delightful; & here in $38^{\circ} 30'$ North I find a heat I had never dreamed of: $96^{\circ}, 97^{\circ} \pm 98^{\circ}$ - (the newspaper says $101^{\circ}/7$ in the shade during the 3 days of my stay here - & comparatively no preparations against the heat. No verandahs or piazzas running all round the houses - as in New Orleans. & carpets down in every room throughout the house almost! Now in New Orleans I never saw the thermometer above 90° - & always had cool nights - which is not the case here - & accordingly I am delighted at the thoughts of leaving for "the land of" "mosquitos" - I have had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Engelmann & have obtained some local (sanitary) statistics from him - & with many thanks for your notes, which I keep by me for reference, believe me. Yours sincerely J. Burnley Hume.

St. Louis, Mo. 21st June 1853.

My dear Sir, J B Hume

I am obliged by the receipt of your recent letter with its enclosure, as also of your first letter of the 15th April, which has been forwarded to me here. Singly - early enough experience had already brought me to a conclusion very similar to your first suggestion - & I very much doubt whether ~~time~~ time on the one hand, or heat & fatigue on the other, will permit of my accomplishing the whole of my projected inland tour - from the Lakes to the Southern Alleghanies - Accordingly on board the renowned Eclipse - which I took at Natchez, (where I had been paying that attention ~~of~~ to cotton, which the

protracted drought of the season &
consequent backwardness of the crop
would not allow me to do five weeks
^{since} in South Carolina.) I was for a long
time hesitating, whether I should not
go up to Louisville in the Eclipse.
& so make sure of seeing Kentucky &
the Mammoth cave by a tour
beginning & ending at Louisville -
whence I could afterwards have steamed
to this place: but, as we got higher
& higher up stream, we got more & more
certain information as to there being
but 4 feet water on the bars in the
Ohio - while great doubts arose whether
a considerable part of the Eclipse
papers might not be detained some
days at Paducah. Further more,
almost every one I spoke to on the
matter recommended exactly this season

& stage of water as the very best for
ascending the Mississippi: then again I
found a sugar planter from Louisiana
with his wife & children on board the
Eclipse, who was fixed to go up to the
Falls of St Anthony - so that when, on
arriving at Cairo, I found there would
be a St. Louis boat-paging in a few
hours, I could hesitate no longer. I
carried out my original plan of coming
straight up to this place - not without a
strong hope, however, of getting at
least as far South again as Cincinnati
& the Mammoth Cave.

I leave this place, with the
greatest possible anticipations of
~~relief~~ ^{relief}, tomorrow - & shall arrive
at the Falls, D.V. on the 27th. From
the day I left the interior of South
Carolina, to the day I arrived in